



First Nations and Inuit people

will have autonomy and

control of their health

programs and resources

within a time-frame to be

determined in consultation with

First Nations and Inuit people

First Nation and Inuit Health Branch's Vision

The sun is also an important symbol amongst the people of the Arctic as it's welcomed light to the land was the inspiration to the dawning of a new day. The bear's prominence is also essential in the Medicine Wheel and is considered to bestow a healing energy, which is represented by the centrepiece of the bears paw.

Further Resources

The following is a list of some resource information that can be found on our internet website:
http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/msb/pptsp/hfa_e.htm

Community Health Needs Assessment: A Guide for First Nations and Inuit Health Programs

Human Resource Guidelines for the Management of First Nations and Inuit Health Programs

Transferring Control of Health Programs to First Nations and Inuit Communities

Handbook 1: An Introduction to Three Approaches

Handbook 2: The Health Services Transfer

Handbook 3: After the Transfer - The New Environment

Guide to Health Management Structures for First Nations (Handbook 2 - appendix E)

A Guide for First Nations on Evaluating Health Programs

The Medical Officer and Transfer, 1997

Your Environmental Health Program, 1995

Discussing Employment with First Nation Health Employers - A Guide for Nurses, 1993

Ten Years of Health Transfer First Nation and Inuit Control, April 1989-March 1999

For additional information on the transfer process, contact:

First Nations and Inuit Health Branch
Program Policy, Transfer Secretariat and Planning Directorate/
Health Funding Arrangements

First Nations & Inuit

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Transfer Initiative

Health Canada's Mission

To help the people of

Canada maintain and

improve their health.



The design above is derived from several First Nations and Inuit symbols. The main centre figures with their hands held forming a circle, represent the wholeness and harmony of life, as well as the notion of life as a continuous journey, and shows the offer of strength and unity. Each figure blends to a point at the base to help form the rays of the sun.

Three Approaches to Increased First Nations and Inuit Control

Health Services Transfer involves a process that gradually moves control of resources and responsibility for community health services and programs into the hands of First Nation and Inuit communities. The process includes the transfer of knowledge, capacity and funds so that communities can manage and administer their health resources based on their own community needs and priorities.

Depending on their eligibility, a community may choose any of the three approaches to enter into the process of increasing their control over health programs and services:

- Integrated Community-Based Health Services approach
- Health Services Transfer approach
- Self-Government

The Goals of the Transfer Approach are:

- to enable communities to design health programs, establish services and allocate funds according to community health priorities;
- to ensure that communities have flexibility in the delivery of health programs and services;
- to ensure that public health and safety are maintained through the provision of mandatory health and treatment programs; and
- to strengthen and enhance the accountability of community leaders to community members.

Community Eligibility

To be eligible to begin the planning process for the Transfer Approach, a community must provide:

- a mandate as evidenced by a Band Council Resolution or other form of approval appropriate to the Band(s) or Inuit group(s) granting the mandate;
- evidence of successful financial and administrative experience in program management.

Circle of Program Management, the Community Health Plan and Evaluation



This circle shows the linkages between evaluation and program management. The results of the evaluation enable the community to update their CHP to reflect any changes to program priorities and objectives and to prepare for the renewal of their transfer agreement.

Transfer Arrangement

The mechanism used to facilitate this level of control is through an administrative arrangement referred to as a contribution agreement. Contributions are conditional transfer payments made in accordance with the Treasury Board Transfer-Payment Policy and in accordance with legislative or program requirements. Contributions are based on reimbursing a recipient for specific expenditures according to the terms and conditions set out in the Contribution Agreement and signed by the respective parties.

Également disponible en français: "Initiative en Matière de transfert pour les Premières Nations et les Inuits".

Phase I: Pre-Transfer Planning - Key Activities

- Submit a planning proposal with a Band Council Resolution and letter of audit.
- Conduct a Community Needs Assessment.
- Establish a community health management structure and provide training.
- Develop first 4 components of the Community Health Plan (CHP): identify community health priorities; describe health management structure; describe management and delivery of mandatory and community health programs.

Phase II: Bridging - Key Activities

- First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) reviews CHP to date.
- Develop 8 components of the CHP to describe provisions for: Medical Officer of Health; liability and malpractice insurance coverage; obtaining drugs and medical supplies, moveable assets reserve, confidentiality procedures, accountability and reporting; professional supervision and comprehensive budget.
- FNIHB reviews CHP.
- Development of a Memorandum of Understanding to guide the process leading to a Transfer Agreement.

Phase III: Implementation - Key Activities

- 3 to 5 year Transfer Agreement is signed.
- During the first year of the agreement, develop the final 3 components of the CHP to describe plans for: training after transfer; emergency preparedness; and evaluation.

Note: these plans may be completed in the bridging phase.

Phase IV: Post-Implementation - Key Activities

- All reporting requirements are met in accordance with the terms and conditions of the transfer agreement.
- CHP's are current.
- Meetings with communities to discuss post-transfer issues, response to reports and to share information.
- Renewal discussions.

